



Gender Neutral Marriage Information

Effective June 12, 2008

SUBJECT TO CHANGE

County Clerk Office Processing hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday (Excluding holidays)

General information about marriage in the State of California

- California residence is not a requirement to marry in California. The same requirements apply whether you are a U.S. Citizen or Foreigner.
- Two unmarried parties may marry in the State of California.
- Marriage by proxy is not allowed in California unless one of the parties is a member of the Armed Forces of the U.S. who is stationed overseas serving in a conflict or war. Please call (909) 387-8334 for additional information.

What do we need to do to be married in California?

1. Apply for and purchase a California marriage license at a CA County Clerk Office in person, and
2. Have a ceremony performed within 90 days of purchasing the marriage license, and
3. Marriage solemnized by a person authorized by CA Family Code Section 400-402.

When will the County Clerk be able to issue marriage licenses to gender neutral couples?

The San Bernardino County Clerk will follow the direction given by the State Department of Public Health's Office of Vital Records and begin issuing marriage licenses to gender neutral couples on June 17, 2008.

Please check <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/news/Pages/Update05-08.aspx> for updates.

Can gender neutral couples schedule an appointment now to come in for a marriage license and ceremony?

You can reserve a date for a license and ceremony by calling (909) 387-8334.

How much does a marriage license cost? \$73 (Regular public license), \$75 (Confidential license) NO REFUNDS.

Please note: Effective July 1, 2008 the cost will be \$83.00 (Regular public license), \$85.00 (Confidential license).

What is the difference between a Public and Confidential marriage license?

If public: You can get married anywhere in the State of California, you need at least one witness during your ceremony, and the marriage record is made available to the public.

If confidential: You must be living together, getting married in the County where you purchased your license, no witness(es) are required, and the marriage record is only available to the two parties to the marriage. Note: All persons who are members of a religious society or denomination not having clergy for the purpose of solemnizing marriages, must let the clerk know they need a VS 115 form. (Family Code, Section 425).

If we apply for and are issued a public marriage license, can we change it to a confidential marriage license, or vice versa?

No.

What if we are currently State Registered Domestic Partners?

A Registered Domestic Partnership (RDP) need not be dissolved prior to the issuance of a marriage license if the parties to the RDP and the parties to the marriage are identical. If the parties are not identical to the RDP, then applicant(s) must obtain a "Termination of Domestic Partnership", a "Judgment of Dissolution" or "Judgment of Nullity". Additional information is available at www.sos.ca.gov/dpregistry/dp_formsfees.htm

How do we have a civil ceremony at the County Clerk's Office?

You can reserve a date for a future ceremony by calling (909) 387-8334. Ceremony fee is \$40.00

Please note: Effective July 1, 2008 the ceremony fee will be \$50.00

Can we get a marriage license anywhere else?

Yes. When the court's decision is finalized it is effective for the entire State of California. See reverse.
(Subject to change)

When can we request and pay for a certified copy of our marriage certificate?

Upon receipt of a public marriage license returned to the County Recorder or confidential marriage license returned to the County Clerk, once recorded, the time frame is approximately 10 days. Certified copy fee is \$13.00 each.

If you have any questions regarding the validity of a gender neutral marriage, please contact the State Office of Vital Records at <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/news/Pages/Update05-08.aspx> or call (916) 445-2684.

Hall of Records, 222 W. Hospitality Lane, 1st floor, San Bernardino, CA 92415-0022

CALIFORNIA COUNTY CLERKS

Alameda	Courthouse, 1106 Madison St., 1st Floor, Oakland, CA 94607, (510) 272-6565
Alpine	P.O. Box 158, Markleeville, CA 96120, (530) 694-2281
Amador	810 Court Street, Jackson, CA 95642, (209) 223-6468
Butte	25 County Center Drive, Oroville, CA 95965, (530) 538-7691
Calaveras	Government Center, 891 Mountain Ranch Road, San Andreas, CA 95249, (209) 754-6372
Colusa	546 Jay Street, Colusa, CA 95932-2491, (530) 458-0500
Contra Costa	555 Escobar Street, Martinez, CA 94553, (925) 335-7899
Del Norte	981 H Street, Suite 160, Crescent City, CA 95531, (707) 464-7216
El Dorado	360 Fair Lane, Placerville, CA 95667, (530) 621-5490
Fresno	2221 Kern Street, Fresno, CA 93721, (559) 488-3375
Glenn	Courthouse, 526 W. Sycamore Street, Willows, CA 95988-2746, (530) 934-6412
Humboldt	Courthouse, 825 Fifth Street, 5th Floor, Eureka, CA 95501, (707) 445-7382
Imperial	Courthouse, 940 Main Street, Suite 206, El Centro, CA 92243-2865, (760) 482-4427
Inyo	Courthouse, P.O. Box F, Independence, CA 93526, (760) 878-0222
Kern	1115 Truxton Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93301-4639, (661) 868-3516
Kings	Government Center, 1400 W. Lacey Boulevard, Hanford, CA 93230-9910, (559) 582-3211 X 2302
Lake	Courthouse, 225 N. Forbes Street, Lakeport CA 95453, (707) 263-2311
Lassen	Courthouse, 220 S. Lassen Street, Susanville, CA 96130, (530) 251-8216
Los Angeles	12400 E. Imperial Highway, Norwalk, CA 90650, (562) 462-2716
Madera	200 West 4th Street, Madera, CA 93637, (559) 675-7721
Marin	3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 247, Civic Center Courthouse, San Rafael, CA (415) 499-6140
Mariposa	Courthouse, P.O. Box 247, Mariposa, CA 95338, (209) 966-2005
Mendocino	501 Low Gap Road, #1020, Ukiah, CA 95482, (707) 463-4370
Merced	2222 M Street, Room 14, Merced, CA 95340, (209) 385-7501
Modoc	Box 130, Alturas, CA 96101, (530) 233-6201
Mono Annex	2 Bryant Street, Bridgeport, CA 93517, (760) 932-5530
Monterey	240 Church Street, P.O. Box 29, Salinas, CA 93902, (831) 755-5404
Napa	900 Coombs Street, Room 116, P.O. Box 298, Napa, CA 94559-0298, (707) 253-4247
Nevada	HEW Building, Suite E, 10433 Willow Valley Road, Nevada City, CA 95959, (530) 265-1298
Orange	12 Civic Center Plaza, Room 106, P.O. Box 238, Santa Ana, CA 92702, (714) 834-2887
Placer	2954 Richardson Drive, Auburn, CA 95603, (530) 886-5610
Plumas	520 Main Street, Room 102, Quincy, CA 95971, (530) 283-6218
Riverside	2724 Gateway Drive, P.O. Box 751, Riverside, CA 92502-0751, (951) 486-7000
Sacramento	600 8th Street, P. O. Box 839, Sacramento, CA 95812-0839, (916) 874-6334
San Benito	Room 206, Courthouse, Hollister, CA 95023-3896, (831) 636-4029
San Bernardino	222 W. Hospitality Lane, 1st Floor, San Bernardino, CA 92415-0022, (909) 387-8334
San Diego	1600 Pacific Highway, 2nd Floor, San Diego, CA 92101, (619) 237-0502
San Francisco	One Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, City Hall, Room 168, San Francisco, CA 94102-4678, (415) 554-4950
San Joaquin	6 South El Dorado Avenue, 2nd Floor, P.O. Box 1968, Stockton, CA 95201-1968, (209) 468-2362
San Luis Obispo	1144 Monterey Street, Suite A, San Luis Obispo, CA 93408, (805) 781-5088
San Mateo	Room B, 1st Floor, 555 County Center Drive, Redwood City, CA 94063-1665, (650) 363-4712
Santa Barbara	1100 Anacapa St., Santa Barbara, CA 93101, (805) 568-2250
Santa Clara	Superior Court Building, 170 Park Plaza, San Jose, CA 95113, (408) 299-8583
Santa Cruz	701 Ocean Street, Room 230, Santa Cruz, CA 95060, (831) 454-2800
Shasta	1643 Market Street, Redding, CA 96001, OR P.O. Box 990880, Redding, CA 96099-0880, (530) 225-5730
Sierra	P.O. Drawer D, Downieville, CA 95936, (530) 289-3295
Siskiyou	Courthouse, P.O. Box 338, Yreka, CA 96097, (530) 842-8084
Solano	675 Texas Street, Fairfield, CA 94533, (707) 421-7485
Sonoma	2300 County Center Drive, Suite B 177, Santa Rosa, CA 95403, (707) 565-3800
Stanislaus	1021 I Street, Suite 101, P. O. Box 1670, Modesto, CA 95353-1670, (209) 525-5211
Sutter	433 Second Street, Yuba City, CA 95991, OR P.O. Box 1555, Yuba City, CA 95922-1555, (530) 822-7120
Tehama	P.O. Box 250, Red Bluff, CA 96080, (530) 527-3350
Trinity	P.O. Box 1215, Weaverville, CA 96093-1215, (530) 623-1222
Tulare	221 S. Mooney Boulevard, Room 103, Visalia, CA 93291-4593, (559) 733-6374
Tuolumne	2nd Floor, Admin. Bldg., 2 South Green Street, Suite E, Sonora, CA 95370, (209) 533-5573
Ventura	800 S. Victoria Avenue, Ventura, CA 93009, (805) 654-2292
Yolo	625 Court Street, Room B01, Woodland, CA 95695, (530) 666-8264
Yuba	915 8th Street, Suite 107, Marysville, CA 95901, (530) 749-7851

Requirements for a Public Marriage License

Issuance Time	30 minute processing time.
Wait Time	Parties with marriage license appointments have priority. Walk-in customers accommodated on a first come basis.
Appointment	A marriage license appointment is highly recommended. Appointments may be made by calling (909) 387-8334.
Age Requirement	At least 18 years old. Person under 18 must obtain a court order from a Juvenile Court Judge.
Blood Test	Not required
Attendance	Both partners must be present when submitting application for issuance of a marriage license.
Legal Photo I.D.	A valid authentic legal photo I.D. card is required from each partner. (Examples: passport, driver's license, naturalization form, resident alien cards, military I.D. containing full legal name and date of birth. If the legal photo I.D. card does not contain your full legal name you must also present a certified copy of birth certificate or social security card, showing your full legal name. Identification documents must be printed in English. If not in English, the document must be officially translated by ATA or Court certified translator and notarized by a notary public.
Previously Married or Registered Domestic Partner?	If either applicant has had a dissolution, annulment, or termination of domestic partnership within the last year, a certified copy of the Judgment of Dissolution, Judgment of Annulment or Termination of Domestic Partnership must be presented before a license will be issued. Note: A "Filed" or "Endorsed" copy (usually provided to you by your attorney) is unacceptable.
Validity	License is valid anywhere in the State of California for 90 days from date of issuance. A marriage license is only a permit to get married and you are not legally married until the marriage is solemnized by an authorized person.
License Fee	\$73.00 (\$83.00 Effective July 1, 2008) collected at the time of applying for marriage license. Payable by cash, money order, check or debit card (\$2.50 fee for debit card).

Persons authorized to solemnize a public marriage

Any judge or retired judge of this State; Commissioner of Civil Marriages or retired Commissioner of Civil Marriages; Commissioner or retired Assistant Commissioner of a Court of Record or Justice Court in this state; any judge or magistrate of the U.S. or any priest, minister or rabbi of any religious denomination of the age of 18 or over. A marriage may also be solemnized by a judge or magistrate of the U.S. who has resigned from office. A legislator or constitutional officer of this state or a member of congress who represents a district within this state, while that person holds office.

Public Civil Ceremony: Fees, witnesses, hours, and other details

Public Civil Ceremony	Ceremonies performed 9:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m.
Wait Time	Parties with ceremony appointments have priority. Walk-in customers accommodated on a first come basis.
Appointment	A ceremony appointment is highly recommended. Appointments may be made by calling (909) 387-8334.
Ceremony Fee	Ceremony fee is \$40.00 (\$50.00 Effective July 1, 2008) Payable by cash, money order, check or debit card (\$2.50 additional fee for debit card).
Witnesses	One witness is required during your ceremony (besides the person performing the ceremony).

Requirements for a Confidential Marriage License

Issuance Time	30 minute processing time.
Wait Time	Parties with marriage license appointments have priority. Walk-in customers accommodated on a first come basis.
Appointment	A marriage license appointment is highly recommended. Appointments may be made by calling (909) 387-8334.
Age Requirement	Minimum age 18. Minors cannot purchase a confidential marriage license.
Blood Test	Not required. Applicants for a confidential marriage license must sign a statement attesting to the fact that they have been living together as husband and wife. The law does not specify a minimum duration of time living together nor proof of living together.
Attendance	Both partners must be present when submitting application for issuance of a marriage license.
Legal Photo I.D	A valid authentic legal photo I.D. card is required from each partner. (Examples: passport, driver's license, naturalization form, resident alien cards, military I.D. containing full legal name and date of birth. If the legal photo I.D. card does not contain your full legal name you must also present a certified copy of birth certificate or social security card, showing your full legal name. Identification documents must be printed in English. If not in English, the document must be officially translated by ATA or Court certified translator and notarized by a notary public.
Previously Married or Registered Domestic Partner?	If either applicant has had a dissolution, annulment, or termination of domestic partnership within the last year, a certified copy of the Judgment of Dissolution, Judgment of Annulment or Termination of Domestic Partnership must be presented before a license will be issued. Note: A "Filed" or "Endorsed" copy (usually provided to you by your attorney) is unacceptable.
Validity	License is valid only in San Bernardino County for 90 days from date of issuance. A marriage license is only a permit to get married and you are not legally married until the marriage is solemnized by an authorized person.
License Fee	\$75.00 (\$85.00 Effective July 1, 2008) collected at the time of applying for marriage license. Payable by cash, money order, check or debit card (\$2.50 fee for debit card).

Persons authorized to solemnize a confidential marriage:

Any judge or retired judge of this State; Commissioner of Civil Marriages or retired Commissioner of Civil Marriages; Commissioner or retired Assistant Commissioner of a Court of Record or Justice Court in this state; any judge or magistrate of the U.S. or any priest, minister or rabbi of any religious denomination of the age of 18 or over. A marriage may also be solemnized by a judge or magistrate of the U.S. who has resigned from office. A legislator or constitutional officer of this state or a member of congress who represents a district within this state, while that person holds office.

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Appointment	A ceremony appointment is highly recommended. Appointments may be made by calling (909) 387-8334.
Ceremony Fee	Ceremony fee is \$40.00 (\$50.00 Effective July 1, 2008) Payable by cash, money order, check or debit card (\$2.50 additional fee for debit card).
Witnesses	No witness(es) required.